

Miller & Rhoads.

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Blankets: Some Timely Suggestions.

Not necessary to say that they're needed these nights. Compare the values of these articles with the prices. The "worth" is based on to-day's mill prices. Our Sixth Street window display shows some of the kinds we have up stairs.

White Wool Blankets, pink and blue borders, 64x78 inches, 14.99 value, **\$3.60**
White Wool Blankets, 72x84 inches, extra quality and a good value at \$5.00, our price **\$5.00**

White Wool Blankets, 68x82 inches, pink and blue borders, \$6.00 value, pair, **\$4.50**
68x82-inch White Cotton Blankets, fancy Jacquard borders, worth \$2.25 pair, special **\$1.69**

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LOOK FOR CHANGES IN POLICE FORCE RAPID GROWTH OF SAN FRANCISCO

Not Likely That Matter Will Be Taken Up at Session To-Day, However.

OLD FIGHT TO BE RENEWED CITY'S IMMENSE ACTIVITY

Proposition to Abolish Inspectorship and Reduce Two Station Captains, Twenty-Eight Thousand Houses Destroyed in Burnt District, But Three Hundred Saved.

The Board of Police Commissioners will meet this afternoon at 1 o'clock in the City Hall to dispose of the usual monthly routine of reports, complaints and disbursements, and to elect three police patrolmen in succession. Hanks, Parker and Murphy, resigned. There are all newly elected men who wear of their new work, one of them after a single tour of duty of but six hours.

It can be stated practically with authority that the prospective reorganization of the force, as in which publications and forecasts have been made from time to time, will not come up at this meeting, though some important changes are expected to be made in two months, or three at most.

Probable Changes.

About four months ago a resolution was introduced in the Board proposing to abolish the office of inspector and transfer that office to duty as a commissioner with the rank of sergeant, and to reduce the two station captains to the rank of sergeants and place them on station or indoor duty. That resolution resulted in a tie vote, 4 to 4, and Mayor McMane, who had the deciding vote, cast it in the negative, thus defeating the plan, certainly for that time.

The reasons stated by the Mayor at the time for this vote were that he decided to make a careful study of the matter and to have the vote of reducing two veteran officers placed upon him, and that he considered that both officers had served the city too long and faithfully to be ousted.

The proposition is to be reintroduced soon. This is taken to mean that the advocates of the proposed change have won over one of the four formerly opposing it to their view, and are confident of passing it.

Certainly, it is predicted by men generally credited with familiarity with the Board's plans no attempt will be made to effect the proposed change at today's meeting. Meanwhile, it is rumored that certain sergeants are slated for promotion to captains when the changes will be made.

FAVOR INCREASE.

Councilman G. K. Pollock, of Madison Ward, who had announced that he would offer at the Council meeting Monday a resolution proposing a horizontal raise in the salary or wage of every employee of the city now receiving less than \$10.00 per annum, did not offer his proposition at that meeting. It is understood that Mr. Pollock withheld it in order not to conflict with the resolution offered by Mr. Bell, proposing a ten percent increase in police salaries.

While there was no discussion of the Bell resolution at the meeting, it is understood that many of the members have expressed themselves privately as favoring the increase. They contend that the policemen are underpaid for the services they perform, the dangers they face and the hardships they have to endure. The universally acknowledged increase in the cost of living, such as rent, meat, milk and food of all kinds, is pointed out, and it is stated that the police officer, whose salary has not been increased, though the wages of men in all other lines have been raised.

The Police resolution may never be offered, and probably will not be.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY.

Interesting Event at Beth Ababa Temple This Week.

The congregation of Beth Ababa will celebrate the second anniversary of its new temple in Friday night at 8 o'clock and Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. An elaborate program of songs, prayers, and readings will be presented, and some of the members of the congregation will be assisted by a chorus of twenty voices. The services will be held in the new temple, which is located at the corner of 14th and Main streets.

Supreme Court of Appeals.

Cases argued—Tarrant and others vs. State, fully argued by Richard L. Lewis and W. W. O. for appellants, and by the State.

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NEWS GATHERED FROM SOUTHSIDE

Very Difficult to Get a Quorum With So Many Commissioners.

TONY PROMISES A SURPRISE

Opposition to Removing Curtains From Saloons—Personals and Briefs.

Manchester Bureau, Times-Dispatch, No. 1102 Hull Street.

The failure of the Fire Commissioners to have a meeting last night is due to the fact that there are sixteen Councilmen commissioners and nine must be present before there is a quorum.

Six were in the Council Chamber last night, but the other necessary three did not appear, and after waiting until 9 o'clock the half dozen went to their homes.

While the probability of the failure of the Fire Commissioners was not the essential reason for the introduction of the resolution to reduce the number to four—one from each ward—it was, nevertheless, used as an argument by Mr. D. L. Toney when he attempted to abolish the system of allowing all Councilmen to ride in the cars free because they were either Fire or Police Commissioners. Mr. Toney asserted that the Council—twenty in number—had elected its members as Fire and Police

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Mosera, T. H. Smith, Charles Yardley, Frank Burford and C. S. Wells. Mr. Smith will send his petition to the Postmaster-General to-day. He has a long list of signatures to the petition, which asks that he be made the postmaster. He is at present city chairman of the Republican Committee.

Seven-Cent Social.

The "seven-cent social" in Masonic Temple last night for the benefit of Bainbridge Street Baptist Church proved to be a most enjoyable affair. The large hall was crowded. The program was excellent. A male quartet furnished fine music. Messrs. Dabney Ellington, Maury Pordus, Wesley Tillery and Meredith Owen composed the quartet.

Seven cents added a person and every article sold was purchased at seven cents. Every seventh person to enter the hall was admitted free.

Committee Meetings.

The Almshouse and Poor Committee of the Council held brief sessions last night, and transacted routine business. Bills for the past month were ordered paid.

There was no quorum of the Election Committee, only two members—Messrs. Patman and Lindsay—being present.

The Water Commissioners held a meeting and paid the monthly bills. They met in the office of Superintendent C. H. Sharp.

Notice Located the Dog.

A notice in the Times-Dispatch of yesterday was the means by which the fine setter dog belonging to Patrolman Wiley, of Richmond, was found yesterday. Mr. W. T. Pearson, of No. 27 East Fourth Street, this city, has the dog and last night notified Mr. Wiley to come after him. The animal followed Mr. Pearson from his work in the West End of Richmond to his home here.

To Start Work Soon.

The Union Truck and Bag Factory, at Seventh and Main streets, last night, was open about January 1st. More than a hundred men and boys will be employed in the factory, which will turn out a great quantity of trunks and traveling bags.

The new plant of the Wingo, Elliott & Crump Shoe Factory, located at Second and Decatur streets, will be open some time in January. Many clerks and workmen will find employment in this establishment.

There is a crying demand for residences. The real estate men cannot furnish all the people who come to them with dwellings, and as a consequence Richmond is reaping a harvest.

With the Courts.

The case of Charles Bailey, the negro who is alleged to have feloniously assaulted Walter King, another negro, was continued in the Corporation Court yesterday until the 19th of December.

Nearly all the felony cases in the court have been continued until the 19th of December, on account of the illness of Attorney E. H. Wells.

In Police Court the Mayor had four small white boys to deal with. They were caught firing poppercans on the street.

"Wait until Christmas, boys," said the Mayor, "and I'll let you have all the fun you want." They promised to be good.

Personals and Briefs.

Mr. Cabell Moody, a well known man of the city, who has been ill for several weeks, has completely recovered.

Miss Emma Odell Bailey left yesterday morning for Norfolk to attend the marriage of her friend, Miss Jane E. Mason, to Mr. Talbot Hunt, of Norfolk.

Professor Maurice, father of Mayor Maurice, was acquainted with Mrs. Florence Maybrick in Norfolk about twenty years ago. He expects to meet Mrs. Maybrick while she is in Richmond.

The officers of Chesterfield county are inclined to the belief that the fire which destroyed the house of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, near Stop No. 5 of the Interurban line, was of incendiary origin.

Dealers in Christmas toys and fireworks are doing a great business. The indications are that the city will be awake from Christmas Eve until the morning of the 26th.

The funeral of the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. L. Lewis, of No. 113 Perry street, took place from the home yesterday morning. The services being conducted by the Rev. F. B. McPharran, pastor of Fifth Street Methodist Church. Interment was in Maury Cemetery.

Douglas Smith, a negro, has been arrested on a charge of assault with a knife on the charge of assaulting William Archer. The case will be tried next Friday.

FIRE STARTED IN HOUSE OF PROPHET

Four Small Frame Structures in Jackson Ward Destroyed Yesterday.

Fire, which broke out at 11 o'clock yesterday morning in Jackson Ward, at the corner of St. Paul and Hill streets, destroyed four small one-story cottages, all frame structures, occupied by negroes. A dozen or more families lived in the houses, and they lost practically all their belongings.

The Fire Department sent engines and trucks to the scene of the blaze, and it was only by their prompt attention that the fire was prevented from being one of the biggest that ever broke out in that section of the city.

A negro prophet had predicted that some calamity would befall the neighborhood, and by an irony of fate the fire started in his house.

KENTUCKY WOMAN IS SEEKING HER FATHER

Anxious to Re-Establish Relations Long Sundered—Writes to Mayor McCarthy.

Mayor Carlton McCarthy has received a letter from a woman signing her name Mrs. D. C. Alcorn, of Lexington, Ky., making inquiry as to the whereabouts of her father, Clark Cornett, whom she has not seen for many years, and who she is informed resides in or near Richmond. She desires to locate him in order that she may communicate with him and re-establish relations long sundered. Neither is aware of the other's whereabouts.

The Mayor has written to her, giving the names and addresses of two persons now residing in the city named Cornett, though neither is the man as to whom she inquired. Publicity is given to the inquiry in the hope that it may aid in locating the father sought by his daughter.

Wrecked Cars Here.

Three cars that were in the terrible wreck near Lynchburg, in which President Spencer, of the Southern Railroad, met such a tragic death, are now in the Manchester yards of the railroad. There are one combination baggage and passenger car, about half of which is torn off. The part brought into the yards is splintered so that it can not be repaired. The express and mail cars brought to the yards here are not damaged so badly.

The Postmastership.

Interest in the appointment of a postmaster for Manchester continues to grow. The appointment will be made by the 25th of this month, and the friends of each candidate are doing all they can to land the position for their favorite.

Mr. H. C. Beattie is the present postmaster, and is a candidate for the appointment. The other candidates are

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MILK SITUATION STILL DISCUSSED

Feeling Veering to Side of Producers and Dealers as to Prices.

PURER QUALITY DEMANDED

Councilmen and Physicians Much Interested in Matter—What Mr. Bellwood Says.

Feeling in regard to the milk question now seems to be veering to the side of the producers and dealers, as it is pretty well seen that they have been forced to raise the price from eight to ten cents a quart, owing to the extreme scarcity of labor, combined with its shiftlessness, and the greater expense of production, consequent upon the increased cost of food-stuffs and the higher price of cows.

Still there are many who believe that the raise in the price of milk should bring about a higher standard of purity and cleanliness. Several Councilmen spoke along this line last night, voicing what seems to be public sentiment. Dr. J. Allison Hodges, whose private hospital, the Hygeia, is one of the largest milk consumers in the city, said, when interviewed on the subject, that he did not think ten cents a quart exorbitant, and that strict attention should be paid to keeping it at a standard quality.

Mr. E. C. Bellwood, proprietor of the Bellwood Dairy, in Chesterfield county, has also something to say on the matter from the point of view of the producer. He says that if the producers are compelled to increase the butter-fat standard of the milk that there will be a startling dearth of the article in Richmond, and a price for it that would create general consternation.

Many Grumbling.

Among the poorer classes of people there is a tendency to grumble at the increase in price, just as there always is at a rise in the cost of any food-stuff. Many families are refusing to buy the milk at all at ten cents a quart, and are attempting a boycott on the dealers, rather using condensed milk for household purposes. In one family, recently visited by a prominent physician, the mother, who was afflicted with erysipelas, was advised by him to drink milk. She told him tearfully that her husband had believed that the dealer was cheating her, and the people right. They had started to purchase condensed milk, and it is probable that many more of their kind are following in their footsteps.

Several Councilmen were interviewed on the subject last night. Mr. John Lynch and Captain R. LeMaurier both said that if the dealers had seen fit to raise the price to ten cents a quart, then the city would be in a predicament. They should also raise the standard in the city, and the milk they furnished to the city.

Mr. Gilbert Pollock and Mr. D. M. White expressed themselves along the same line, and all said that the quality should be raised with the price.

It might be well to know that there is a certain brand of milk sold in Baltimore at twenty cents a quart. But all this milk is certified, and it goes out in bottles bearing the certified statement of the dealer. In a printed label on the bottle, in Asheville, N. C., where is located Vanderbilt's dairy-farm, one of the finest in the country, milk produced by this herd is sold at twenty or twenty-five cents a quart. So the people may understand the reason for the higher price.

To secure better milk, which all would desire, would necessitate a higher price to be paid for the product.

Dr. J. Allison Hodges said last night that he was not in the city of Richmond, but better than it has been for some time. The physician said: "I feel what we are after is first-class milk, which can scarcely be had at 10 cents a quart under the present conditions, and if only the very best milk is used for the production of milk, they are worthless for anything else." Dr. Hodges was rather inclined to think that the producers were rather hard put to it to furnish milk at 10 cents a quart, and did not think that price too much.

The Farmers' Side.

Mr. E. C. Bellwood, proprietor of the Bellwood Dairy, in Chesterfield county, wants to know what the city would do in a milk famine, which would be the result if they were pushed too close to the wall. He writes as follows:

"In the many comments, appearing from time to time in the Richmond papers, upon the milk question, and the are conspicuously numerous since the milk has no word of defense for the producer is offered. All is sympathy for the consumer. The farmer has a personal interest in keeping his cows healthy and his stable in a sanitary condition. Still an inspector was appointed, and the milkman was commanded to contribute toward his salary or be fined if he brought his milk to the city. After complying, at much expense, with these requirements, he furnishes an absolutely pure article free from contamination, and is persecuted in the Police Court throughout the land, because his milk does not average up to the certain standard of butter-fat demanded by the Board of Health."

"It is a fact, not generally known, that it is impossible to increase the percentage of butter-fat in milk by any known system of feeding. So the producer must sacrifice many of his cows and replace them with very expensive ones. This disorganizes his business and many succumb. Still he hears it without complaint. Now the cost of feed and labor has almost doubled, and the correcting dairyman is driven to buy. He must have a higher price for his milk or go out of business."

"We note that from a seemingly indolent spirit, Richmond threatens to increase the butter-fat standard, and to establish a bacteriological test as well. If this threat to increase the butter-fat standard is carried into execution, a large percentage of the cows now supplying milk for the city will be handed over to the butcher, and there will be a startling dearth of milk in Richmond, and a price for it that will create consternation. Furthermore, if the consumer wants certified milk, the farmer will supply it without demur. Such an increase in the price of milk is now regularly supplied to fastidious people in many cities at from fifteen to twenty cents per quart."

"Referring to the bacteriological idea, it sounds momentous, but will it stand the test?"

The most robust constitutions are found in the men and women reared in the country, who, from infancy to maturity, drank great quantities of milk—sweet, sour or coagulated—kept where no sanitary conditions were heeded. And today the secret hope of every mother's heart is to get her child on a farm where it will be amply supplied with milk of any quality or stage of bacterial multiplication, believing it will (as they all go) convert these inconceivable millions of

microbes into magnificent physical and mental stamina.

The charge of greed against the dealers is also the fruit of a fertile imagination. The majority of their patrons are familiar through experience with the harassing tribulations and less accounts incident to the retail trade, and are glad to escape. They would not again engage in it with milk at forty-five cents per gallon.

"Such compensation as small allowance to the dealer through the three-cent grievance, with a business contracted to two-thirds of its normal scope, is freely forfeited by the producer."

WHITNEY BROTHERS.

Fine Entertainment in Y. M. C. A. Hall Last Night.

One of the most enjoyable occasions yet afforded the members of the Young Men's Christian Association was that of last evening, when the Whitney Brothers Quartet appeared, and with recitation and song amused and delighted the audience for several hours. The program was a long and interesting one, and the audience was kept in a state of high excitement throughout.

The Whitney Brothers Quartet, which is composed of Messrs. AVIN M. Whitney, Edwin M. Whitney, William P. Whitney and Yae B. Whitney, has been in the city for several days, and has given several performances. Their program was a long and interesting one, and the audience was kept in a state of high excitement throughout.

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